

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2013**

**The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, August 26, 2013, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairman Silva called the meeting to order at approximately 7:14 PM.**

**Present: Paul Silva, Chairman; Karen Lynch, Secretary; Susan Rancourt, Treasurer; Diana Campbell, Marjorie McBride, William O'Dell and John Saviano, Melinda L. Thies, Superintendent; Pauline A. Silva, Director of Administration and Finance; Mary N. Almeida, Director of Literacy and Title I; and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor**

**(REMOVED)Absent: (ADDED)Deployed: John Bento, Vice-Chairman  
Absent: Lynn Wainwright**

**OPENING BUSINESS**

**All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**There was no public comment.**

**Chairman Silva stated that since there were no issues with the Personnel Recommendations, the Executive Session would be moved to the end of the meeting for discussion of possible litigation.**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**

**Chairman Silva stated that all items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the School Committee and will be enacted in one motion unless a School Committee Member would like an item pulled for a separate vote. Hearing no requests to do so, Chairman Silva asked for a vote.**

**MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to seal the Executive Session Minutes; Mr. Saviano seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **S2013-39 A-H: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL**

**A. GCD APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the Superintendent's appointment of the following applicants to the positions of Middle School Social Studies Teacher and two Elementary Reading Specialist/Consultants in accordance with Section GCD of the School Committee Bylaws as follows:**

## **1. Michael Lefort Social Studies Teacher – Kickemuit**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Resignation–M. Martins)**

**Funding: Operational Budget  
(6th Step)**

## **2. Elizabeth Salzillo Reading Specialist/Consultant – Colt Andrews**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Retirement – L. Kemp/  
Transfer – S. Correia)**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**(10th Step/Masters)**

**3. Sarah Yassine Reading Specialist/Consultant –  
Hugh Cole**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school  
year, pending receipt of certification  
and satisfactory completion of  
pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Resignation – S. Antonio)**

**Funding: Operational Budget  
(10th Step/Masters)**

**B. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the  
recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following  
applicants to the positions of Secondary Mathematics Teacher,  
Secondary Industrial Technology Teacher, Middle School Science  
Teacher, three Elementary Special Educators, Elementary Teacher  
and Elementary Library/Media Specialist as listed below:**

**1. Tory Meneses Mathematics Teacher – Mt. Hope  
High**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school year only, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a leave of absence vacancy  
(J. Mulvena)**

**Funding: Operational Budget  
(1st Step)**

**2. Sarina M. Benton Industrial Technology Teacher –Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Resignation S. Eaton)**

**Funding: Operational Budget  
(2nd Step)**

### **3. Lisa J. Davis Science Teacher – Kickemuit Middle**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school year only, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a leave of absence vacancy  
(K. Marshall)**

**Funding: Operational Budget  
(1st Step/Masters)**

### **4. Amy McDermott Special Educator – Colt Andrews**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a new position**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**(1st Step/Masters)**

**5. Danielle Hilliard Special Educator – Colt Andrews**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Resignation – S. Rapko)**

**Funding: Operational Budget  
(1st Step/Masters)**

**6. Caroline H. Anderson Special Educator – Rockwell**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Transfer – S. Breitmaier/  
Resignation – M. Denice)**

**Funding: Operational Budget  
(1st Step/Masters)**

**7. Tiffany Giusti Grade Five Teacher – Hugh Cole**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school  
year only, pending receipt of  
certification and satisfactory  
completion of pre-employment  
requirements**

**Reason: To fill a leave of absence  
vacancy  
(J. Rowe)**

**Funding: Operational Budget  
(1st Step)**

**8. Deanna Brooks Library/Media Specialist – Hugh Cole**

**Effective: For the 2013-14 school  
year, pending receipt of certification  
and satisfactory completion of  
pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**



**(Resignation – J. Greene)**

**Funding: Operational Budget  
(1st Step/Masters)**

**C. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the School of the 21st Century, Before and After School Program, as listed below (pending sufficient enrollment to warrant running this program and DCYF CANTS clearance):**

**1. Lauren M. Jennings Child Care Bookkeeper (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the  
remainder of the 2013-14 school  
year, pending satisfactory completion  
of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Resignation – L. Callahan)**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**2. Dominique Eppley Child Care Site Coordinator (Part  
Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**3. Susan Simpson Child Care Site Coordinator (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the Remainder of the 2013-14 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**4. Sarah J. Bullard Parents as Teachers (PAT) Educator (Part Time)**

**Effective Immediately, for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year,**

**pending satisfactory completion  
of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Resignation – N. Keyworth)**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**D. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2013-14 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):**

**FALL COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH**

**Sport Position Coach**

- 1. Cross Country (Boys) Head Coach Andrew Sabourin**
- 2. Cross Country (Girls) Head Coach Erin Kennally \***

**ADVISORS – MT. HOPE HIGH**

- 3. Class of 2016 (Co-Advisor) Christopher Lambert**

**INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE**

**Sport Position Coach**

- 4. Cross Country Head Coach Brian Beausoleil \***

5. Soccer (Boys) Head Coach Nick Medeiros \*
6. Track (Outdoor) Head Coach Brian Beausoleil \*

#### **ADVISORS – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE**

7. Choral Ensemble Andre Arsenault
8. Community Service Club Jeffrey Grifka
9. Jazz Band Jeffrey Brackett
10. Lego Robotics Stephanie Wirth
11. Peer Mentoring Patricia Fillipino
12. Science Fiction Club Dayna Achilli

**\* Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**E. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following application for a certified substitute pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

#### **CERTIFIED**

**Name Area/Level**

1. Heather K. Place Art
2. Tabitha R. Summers Elementary

**F. CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for classified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

**TEACHER ASSISTANTS**

**1. Laura DaSilva**

**2. Melissa J. White**

**G. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Elizabeth Patton from the position of Secretary, Kathleen Lawrence from the position of Teacher Assistant, Megan E. Saunders from the position of Child Care Provider and Wayne M. Gardner from the position of Assistant Football Coach as listed below:

**1. Elizabeth Patton Secretary – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: August 30, 2013**

**Reason: Retirement**

**2. Kathleen Lawrence Teacher Assistant - Guiteras**

**Effective: August 23, 2013**

**Reason: Personal**

**3. Megan E. Saunders Child Care Provider**

**Effective: August 16, 2013**

**Reason: Personal**

**4. Wayne M. Gardner Assistant Football Coach – Mt. Hope  
High**

**Effective: August 13, 2013**

**Reason: Personal**

**H. SUSPENSION, NONRENEWAL AND/OR TERMINATION OF  
CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: That the School Committee confirm the  
recommendation of the Superintendent to rescind the vote(s) of  
February 20, 2013 as to the following listed teacher and appoint the  
listed teacher to the position indicated:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Anticipated Assignment</b>
-------------	-------------------------------

## **1. Carol Cappadona Elementary Libra**

**Mrs. Thies stated that she did not request that the new hires attend the School Committee meeting this evening because the school year begins on Wednesday, and she felt the new staff would be best served spending time preparing for their instruction on Wednesday. Mrs. Thies said she will give a summary of each candidate in her School Committee Report.**

**Recommendation #S2013-40: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the First Reading of Policy BBAA, School Committee Member Authority.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the First Reading of Policy BBAA, School Committee Member Authority; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Recommendation #S2013-41: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the First Reading of Policy BCB, School Committee Officers (Duties)**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the First Reading of Policy BCB, School Committee Officers (Duties); seconded by Mr. O'Dell.**

**DISCUSSION:** Chairman Silva asked what the penalty would be if a School Committee member is not abiding by a policy and what would be expected of the Chairman in that instance. Mr. O'Dell responded that there really isn't a penalty. He added that the topic came up a few years ago and clarification was needed on whose responsibility it was. Mrs. Campbell stated that as the leader, the Chairman would be responsible for making a member aware of a policy in the case that it was not being followed. Chairman Silva responded that the wording does not indicate "to make aware", but that it says the Chairman will insure proper implementation.

**MOTION:** Mrs. McBride amended her motion to include revised wording; Mrs. Lynch seconded.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. O'Dell said rather than smith this out here, the Subcommittee can review and make changes.

Mrs. McBride withdrew her previous amended motion.

It was agreed to approve the First Reading and to have the Subcommittee wordsmith so that the language reflects the gist of the discussion concerning implementation.

The motion to approve the First Reading of policy BCB, School Committee Officers Duties, passed unanimously.



**Recommendation #S2013-42: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the First Reading of Policy BG, Board Committee-Staff Communications**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the First Reading of Policy BG, Board Committee-Staff Communications; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Recommendation #S2013-43: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the addition of cross-reference “BBAA, School Committee Member Authority” to Policy BBF, School Committee Member Ethics**

**Chairman Silva stated that this recommendation did not have to come before the School Committee and was therefore withdrawn.**

**Recommendation #S2013-44: That the School Committee upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve removal of note from Policy BCD, School Committee-Superintendent Relationship**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the removal of note from Policy BCD, School Committee-Superintendent Relationship; seconded by Mr. O’Dell. The motion passed**

unanimously.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES**

Chairman Silva commented that he had the pleasure of attending the morning's orientation. He stated that he welcomed staff on behalf of the entire School Committee and thanked them for their past work and the work to come this year. Chairman Silva recommended that the School Committee watch the link that Mrs. Thies provided during the orientation stating it was very good. Mrs. Thies added that it was a great orientation day with a lot of positive energy. Mrs. Thies said the Rhode Island Educator Evaluation System was discussed. She added that highlights showcasing progress within the District were presented. She felt the orientation was quite well received by the Staff.

## **SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOALS**

Chairman Silva turned the meeting over to Mrs. Campbell who had compiled data from the School Committee's responses to the self-evaluation of the School Committee Goals. Mrs. Campbell, by way of background, stated that during a School Committee Workshop last year facilitated by Nick Morgan, District Management Council, the School Committee developed three general goals: Increase Effectiveness of School Committee, Engage Students in Complimentary Educational Opportunities, and Increase Parent and

**Community Involvement.** Mrs. Campbell added that under each general goal was a list of sub-goals. She stated at the time, the School Committee wasn't sure how those goals would play out. Mrs. Campbell thanked everyone for their feedback stating it was a good exercise to individually assess the goals. She commented that the goals were graded on a 1 to 4 basis with 1 being poor and 4 being good. Mrs. Campbell then went over the following items summarizing evaluation responses and requesting whether the goal should stay or be removed.

**Professional Development:** Mrs. Campbell reported that there seemed to be a difference of interpretation as to what Professional Development was. She asked Mr. Henneous what the legal requirements are for School Committee Professional Development attendance. He responded that the law does not define the extent of Professional Development. Mr. Henneous said that it is the responsibility of the School Committee to pursue Professional Development through RIASC. He added that those schools who might not be members of RIASC can develop their own Professional Development. Mr. Henneous stated that he will look into this.

Mrs. Campbell polled the School Committee on whether they felt Professional Development should be kept as a goal. Mrs. McBride said that this should be kept as a goal and feels that the School Committee currently receives Professional Development throughout the year from administrators who provide presentations during

**School Committee Meetings. Mrs. Rancourt would like to see this kept as a goal. Mr. Saviano stated that for training of board members, the statute through RIASC states a minimum of six hours. He added that RIASC offers many types of training on Saturday mornings that the School Committee would not get otherwise. Mr. Saviano gave an example of the type of individualized training received through RIASC. He added that RIASC focuses on current events that need fixing throughout the state. Mr. Saviano stated the training is offered at a reasonable cost to the School Committee members. Mrs. Campbell suggested that quarterly, Mr. Saviano could give a summary of those sessions offered through RIASC along with the materials. Mr. Saviano replied that might help, but it still won't give the same caliber of training had it been received first hand. Chairman Silva believes that there is difficulty for School Committee members to attend Saturday morning training sessions as many have other obligations. He added that the School Committee sets aside Mondays on their schedule and suggests having the four months where there are five Mondays in a month be designated as Professional Development days having a meetings on those nights from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.. Chairman Silva said a stipend could be paid to those who present. Mr. Saviano responded that the top districts in the state attend the Saturday morning sessions at RIASC in mass. He believes it is a question of the School Committee setting aside eight Saturdays a year. He asked that the School Committee consider RIASC's program.**

**Mrs. Campbell closed by stating that Professional Development will be kept as a goal stating that the School Committee will engage a speaker quarterly and recommend that all School Committee members attend at least one RIASC meeting a year such as School Committee 101.**

### **Improve Utilization of Meetings**

**Mrs. Campbell stated that overall the School Committee felt a good job was being done in this regard. Mrs. Campbell brought up the issue of having to wait two months to discuss an item on an admin report is concerning. She stated, however, that legal counsel instructed that the School Committee could no longer pull a report to be discussed during a meeting as this item would need to be on the agenda alerting the public it was going to be discussed. Mrs. Campbell stated the difficulty is that reports aren't received until the Thursday before a meeting and the agenda must be posted at that time as well. Mr. O'Dell stated that overall he scored this item low. He said that in the last year he has felt out of the loop. Mr. O'Dell said he experimented recently by coming to meetings right at start time and leaving right when it ended to see whether he would be missing information. Mr. O'Dell asked the question, "Are School Committee members talking about agenda items before or after a meeting?" Mr. O'Dell cited an instance recently where some members had enough information to vote on a recommendation, but he did not. Mr. O'Dell then brought up Executive Board Meetings stating that their original purpose was to review the agenda to check for any pitfalls, to see**

what documentation would be needed and to ensure that the meeting goes smoothly. Mr. O'Dell said this is not an open meeting and therefore, is not published. He feels he cannot attend these meetings. Mr. O'Dell stated these are his observations and that he doesn't know where these meaningful conversations are taking place.

Mrs. Campbell asked if anyone had suggestions on how to improve utilization of meetings. Mrs. Lynch responded that she did not look at this goal the same way Mr. O'Dell did. She feels the School Committee does a great job in this area. Mrs. Lynch stated that the public is always allowed a voice during the meetings with back and forth discussion. She feels the School Committee does a very good job listening to people when they come before the Committee. Mrs. Campbell said there needs to be a way to find opportunities to have more candid conversations. Mrs. Campbell commented that there seems to be an interpretation issue with this goal. Mr. O'Dell believes this should be a goal, but there needs to be a clear understanding of what that goal entails. Mrs. Campbell believes the School Committee can become more effective if everyone is on the same page on how this is achieved.

The general consensus was to keep this goal.

#### **Communicate Questions to Admin**

Mrs. Campbell stated that the School Committee members believe

**this goal is on track. Mrs. McBride stated that years ago the School Committee was just asking questions on the spot of administration. As a result, people were not prepared to respond. She believes it is important to communicate concerns before a meeting so that there is understanding of how a decision was made, for example, and then discuss at the meeting. Mrs. Campbell would like to find a more efficient way to have these types of items placed on the agenda. Mrs. Thies commented that it is helpful when administrators know in advance questions from the School Committee related to an area of interest. She added that having this information ahead of time and including on a Workshop agenda is very beneficial. Mrs. Thies stated that this would satisfy Mr. O'Dell's point that all members and the public would have access to this information which would be very advantageous.**

**The consensus was to keep this goal.**

### **Implement Clear Budget Prioritization, Workshop Process and Calendar**

**Mrs. Campbell reported that the consensus is to keep this goal. Mrs. Rancourt commented that there can be barriers to this goal at times when we need engagement from partners other than our own. She believes the School Committee has done a good job reaching out to these partners. Mrs. Campbell stated that clearly the School Committee has done a good job as the budget was passed through the Joint Finance Committee.**

## **Increase Board Outreach**

**Mrs. Campbell stated that this goal did not score well. She doesn't believe members understood what this goal meant as some thought it was an outreach to parents and others thought it was an outreach to partnerships and organizations. Mr. O'Dell stated that he would like a clear definition of what this goal is as he didn't see how the goals and actions matched. Mrs. McBride stated she feels this is more a role that would fall under the Superintendent's goals. Mrs. Campbell clarified that it would be more a District outreach then a Board outreach. Mrs. Campbell asked whether the Committee wants to increase the number of people attending the School Committee meetings. Mr. O'Dell asked what would compel that. Mrs. Campbell responded as a public board, it would convey a good perception which would give confidence to the public in the School Committee's leadership ability. Mrs. Lynch commented that she likes it when people attend meetings, but she also feels the District has been doing a good job letting the press know the great things happening within the District. Mrs. Lynch would like to see a continuation of being proactive with the press as well as social media such as Facebook. Mrs. Campbell asked Mrs. Thies whether it was possible to place the School Committee agenda on each of the schools websites. Mrs. Thies responded that it would be possible as the District is revamping their website. She added that this could be achieved by providing a link to the agenda on the schools website. Mrs. Thies added that the District will now have an electronic calendar with filtering ability. Mrs.**



**McBride reiterated that she believes this is a District goal not a board goal.**

**Mrs. Campbell stated that this goal would be left with a “question mark”.**

#### **Increase Number of Meetings with Legislators**

**The overall consensus was to eliminate this as a School Committee goal.**

#### **Increase Regular Communications with Economic Development Council**

**Mrs. Campbell reported that the School Committee was not clear on why this was a School Committee goal. Mrs. Thies commented that at the high school level, curriculumwise, the District met the needs of the economy so that students leaving Bristol Warren schools would be more prepared.**

**The overall consensus was to remove this goal as it falls more in line with the Superintendent’s goal.**

#### **Implement Voting Drive for High School Seniors**

**The consensus was that the high school does this already and to remove as a School Committee goal.**

#### **Board-School Liaison Assignment**

Mrs. Campbell reported this was not scored very highly. She reiterated that the purpose of a liaison is to have a School Committee member connected with an individual school and then represent that school to the Board. Mr. O'Dell stated that he does not like the idea of a liaison as he felt there was too much danger of not going through the "chain of administration". Mr. Saviano said he respectfully disagreed. He believes that a member of the Committee serving as a liaison to a school is able to obtain more information than what would normally be passed along to the School Committee. He feels a liaison being present at a school gives the School Committee more access to the pulse of the school. Mrs. McBride commented that the liaison was first established because principals did not feel that School Committee members were attending school activities, but by being individually involved with a school, they would have that information more readily so that at least one School Committee member could attend. Mrs. McBride stated that the School Committee members do attend school activities now and she is not sure this is needed as a goal. Mrs. McBride added that a liaison should be there to observe, not as a participating member of the community. Chairman Silva stated that whatever the goal of this was, it is not getting done. He added there are six schools now and we aren't able to represent every school. He feels that if the Committee is not going to buy into it fully, it shouldn't be listed as a goal. Mrs. Thies stated she wasn't certain what the role of the liaison was. She continued saying she agrees with Mr. O'Dell that there is a danger of sending mixed messages. She stated that there is a "chain of command" for proper

communications between school individuals and school members. Mrs. Thies said that if the original goal was to ensure attendance by School Committee members at school activities, that will be accomplished through the District's live calendar. Mrs. Thies feels a liaison could be compromising at times. Mrs. Rancourt stated she views this completely differently. She said the job of the School Committee is to be the voice for the public and the schools. She added that it is not just a position of liaison, but also advocate. Mrs. Rancourt stated she does not feel this creates a compromise, but more checks and balances. Chairman Silva stated that he believes there needs to be a new definition of what a liaison is. He said to Mrs. Rancourt's point, a liaison listens to the community and relays it back to the School Committee. He added that there has been conversation about having the schools visit the Committee during regular meetings.

Mrs. Campbell and Chairman Silva will work on a better definition of liaison and present to the School Committee.

#### **Update Ongoing District Recording Structure**

The consensus was to keep this as an ongoing goal every year.

#### **Engage Students in Complementary Educational Opportunities**

Mrs. McBride stated she feels this is a District responsibility. The consensus was to remove.

## **Increase Parent and Community Involvement**

**Mrs. Campbell reported that it was clear the School Committee wants to keep this goal. Chairman Silva said the School Committee needs to come up with better ways to accomplish this.**

**Chairman Silva and Mrs. Campbell will work together on creating a goal to better achieve this.**

## **Increase Use of ConnectEd for Ongoing District Communications.**

**The consensus was to remove this from School Committee goals as it does not fall under their roles.**

**Mrs. Campbell and Chairman Silva will take into consideration the comments made this evening and will revise the goals and actions to make them clearer and easier to implement. Mrs. Campbell will bring the final draft before the School Committee at the next Workshop where the goals will be voted on.**

## **BOYS TENNIS**

**Chairman Silva read the following prepared statement:**

**“At the School Committee Workshop/Meeting held on August 12th we listened to, questioned and responded to a number of inquiries regarding some one of the changes proposed for athletics or should I say Interscholastic League Varsity sports at the High School.**

At the conclusion of our discussion, it was indicated that the administration would look into all of the issues raised and see what the options were for going forward with any changes. I can tell you that the discussions did not stop with the conclusion of the meeting. The administration did some research, the Superintendent sat down with the AD to go over what was found and I also received a number of additional calls, texts and emails. I feel compelled to mention one of those calls specifically. I received a call from Judy Squires, one of the individuals that addressed us on the 12th. She indicated to me that she had spoken with someone at the RI Interscholastic League Office who indicated to her that we would not be in violation of Title IX by adding a boys sport without eliminating one.

At the end of my conversation with her I asked whom she had spoken to and I also asked for the telephone number that she had to call him. I then proceeded to give him a call myself.

When I spoke with him he indicated to me that the RIIL is a "Principal's League" and that they do not make any determinations as to what violates Title IX, they merely approve each member's request to add or eliminate a sport from competition within the league. They further indicate to their members that it is their responsibility to assure that they comply with Title IX. I do not want to let anyone think that this was the entire conversation, but it is the pertinent part.

**The RIIL did also make a specific statement that one of the “prongs” of Title IX indicates that there is no violation when simply adding a boys sport, so long as there are no girls sports that are being requested that we are not implementing. Well, for clarity, we do have a girl’s sport being requested, Field Hockey, and we are not running it because we do not have the facility to do so.**

**Additionally, another comment was circulating that indicated that we recently cancelled a Girl’s sport when we eliminated Fall Cheerleading. I feel I must clarify this issue as well, only Winter Cheerleading is only considered a Varsity sport by the RIIL and therefore, Fall Cheerleading was not a Varsity sport for purposes of Title IX.**

**In any event, the Administration is considering all of these issues and making the decision based upon what is good for the majority of the students we have in our system. I feel confident that all comments and issues will and have been taken into consideration.”**

**Chairman Silva then reported that RIIL Boys Volleyball will still go forward and a boys tennis club will be temporarily implemented. Chairman Silva said he will look to the School Committee for stipends to fund the boys’ tennis club.**

**Mr. Saviano brought up the fact that Barrington has a girls’ field**

hockey team that plays on grass. Mrs. Lynch responded that Barrington has a designated field just for field hockey where Bristol Warren does not. Mrs. Thies added that field hockey cannot share a field with another sport as it does irreparable damage to the field. She also commented that Mrs. Belisle, Athletic Director, stated special turf would be needed for field hockey. Mr. Saviano asked if the Town of Bristol has any fields that could be used. Mr. Silva responded that the Bristol Recreation Department would not allow us to use their fields. Mr. O'Dell asked if a club sport is reasonably satisfying as compared to a varsity sport. Chairman Silva replied that it is not the same caliber or quality, but it will still be competitive above and beyond what an intermural sport would be. Chairman Silva stated that the tennis courts are very much used currently by the girls' tennis team, and will be utilized by the club.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE/SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND INITIATIVES**

**Budget/Facilities Subcommittee:** Mrs. Rancourt reported that there was no Budget Meeting for the month of August. She said the next meeting will be held on Monday, September 16th.

**Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee:** Mr. O'Dell reported that the next policy meeting will be on Tuesday, September 3rd at 6:30 p.m. He stated it is his personal goal to finish up the Health and Wellness Policy then.

**Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee:** Chairman Silva said there was nothing to report. He gave a heads up to the Committee that this is the final year of the BWEA contract. Chairman Silva let the Committee know to expect homework regarding the upcoming contract. He commented that he would like to get the process started once school is up and running. Chairman Silva is hoping to have negotiations done quickly.

**Wellness Committee:** Mrs. Wainwright was not present this evening to report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (8:43 p.m.):**

**Pursuant to Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5 (a)(2) for the following:**

**1. Possible Litigation Discussion**

Chairman Silva stated that no action will be taken during the Executive Session. The Committee will return to open session only to adjourn the regular business meeting.

**MOTION:** Mr. Saviano made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:43 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Lynch made a motion to adjourn Executive Session at 8:51 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.



**ADJOURNMENT – 8:52 PM**

**MOTION:** There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Campbell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 PM; seconded by Mrs. Lynch. The motion passed unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Karen A. Lynch, Secretary**

**/kd**